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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/198,534	11/24/1998	SHINICHI BAN	48864-014	2638

20277 7590 04/01/2005

MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP  
600 13TH STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3096

EXAMINER
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BALI, VIKKRAM

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2623

DATE MAILED: 04/01/2005

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09/198534

EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER
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20050330

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Commissioner for Patents

See attach

Vikkram Bali  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 2623

***Information Disclosure Statement***

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 10/13/2004 and 12/10/2004 was filed after the mailing date of the final action on 4/7/2003. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner. Except for the missing references as listed on IDS form PTO-1449 filed on 10/13/2004.

***Reply Brief***

The reply brief filed 12/29/2004 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.


reply brief

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vikkram Bali whose telephone number is 703.305.4510. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amelia Au can be reached on 703.308.6604. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2623

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Vikkram Bali  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2623

vb  
March 30, 2005